



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: RAYBORN, Jerry
Serial No.: 10/090,201
Filed: March 5, 2002
Title: WATER-BASED DRILLING FLUID ADDITIVE
CONTAINING TALC AND CARRIER
Examiner: Tucker, Philip Art Unit: 1712
Docket: P-0023-US

CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING

Date of Deposit: April 5, 2004

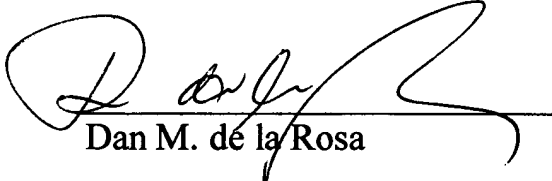
I hereby certify that the following attached paper (s) and/or fee

- (1) Response To Advisory Action; and
- (2) A self-addressed stamped postcard, return which is requested to acknowledge receipt of the enclosed documents

Are being deposited with First Class Mail on the date indicated above and is addressed to the "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450".

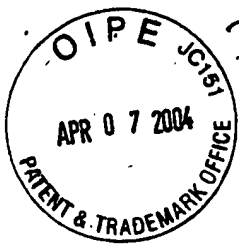
Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 5, 2004


Dan M. de la Rosa

CORRESPONDENCE:

Dan M. de la Rosa, Esq.
345 E. 80th Street, Suite 27H
New York, NY 10021
Telephone: (212) 570-6597
Facsimile: (212) 570-9053



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Hon. Commissioner of Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE TO ADVISORY ACTION

In response to the Advisory Action dated April 1, 2004, the text and status of the pending claims are as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (previously amended) A drilling fluid additive mixture manufactured by a method comprising of:
admixing talc with at least one carrier to create a suspended mixture, said suspended mixture allowing the surface of said talc to be pre-wet with said carrier, said carrier being selected from a group consisting of oils, glycols, esters, olefins and mixtures thereof, and admixing copolymer beads to said mixture prior to adding said mixture to a drilling fluid.
2. (cancelled)
3. (original) The drilling fluid additive mixture of Claim 2 wherein said beads have a specific gravity at from about 1.0 to about 1.5 and a size from about 40 microns to about 1500 microns.